(viii) Examining the danger of inundation from both surface and underground sources of water before every monsoon.

(ix) Promoting workers participation in safety management through various bodies from the mine level to area level, subsidiary company level and CIL level.

(x) Coal India Ltd. has made a thorough review of precautions against inundation in its mines and check correlation survey have been undertaken to establish the barriers between water-logged workings wherever danger of inundation exists.

(xi) A comprehensive action-plan is under implementation to reduce accidents in opencast mines and at surface of mines.

(xii) Thrust on training & re-training of workmen including contractor's workers and supervisors.

Accidents in coal mines

†2838. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the zone-wise number of fatal and non-fatal accidents in coal mines during the last one year and the relief provided to the injured persons in such accidents; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent such accidents and to ensure responsibility for the same and the details of corrective measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The zone-wise number of fatal and non-fatal accidents in coal mines during the year 2001 are as under:—

Sl. No.	DGMS Zone	Fatal Accidents			Serious Accidents	
		Accident	Killed	Injured	Accident	Injured
1.	Central Zone, Dhanbad	17	46	6	99	104
2.	Eastern Zone, Sitarampur	19	20	1	181	191
3.	Northern Zone, Udaipur	2	2	—	6	6
4.	South-Eastern Zone, Ranchi	9	9	1	32	40
5.	Southern Zone, Hyderabad	30	30	3	111	121
6.	Western Zone, Nagpur	29	35	3	231	237
	All India	106	142	14	660	699

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Relief provided by Coal India Limited to the victims/dependents of the deceased are:

(i) Compensation, where eligible.

(ii) Medical facilities.

(iii) Employment to one dependent of the deceased where eligible.

(iv) Alternative employment if necessary (for victim).

(v) Full wages for the period of injury.

(b) All the cases of fatal and some serious accidents are enquired into by the DGMS under the provisions of Mines Act, 1952 and Rules & Regulations made thereunder. Suitable actions are taken after finalising the enquiry reports and fixing of responsibilities. Following actions are taken after an enquiry as the situation warrants:—

(i) Warning to the delinquent.

(ii) Suspension of the certificate.

(iii) Modification in the method of working.

(iv) Action by the management *e.g.* stoppage of increment, dismissal etc. as per finding of the DGMS.

(v) Prosecution in the court of law.

In addition to compliance with requirements of mining safety laws, Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies are taking the following measures to check accidents in its coal mines and to make mining work more safe:—

(i) Monitoring safety status of mines by internal safety organisation (ISO) both at subsidiary level and at CIL Hq.

(ii) Conducting regular safety audits of mines and implementing recommendations of the same.

(iii) Design of system of support of roof in the development workings in under-ground mines is being done based on Rock Mass Rating study.

(iv) Greater use of quick-setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in under-ground mines. Roof-bolting with resin capsules are under-going trials in some mines.

(v) Phased replacement of timber support by steel support is being done.

(vi) Reducing exposure of workers to mining hazards by mechanisation of loading operations by increasing use of SDLs & LHDs in under-ground mines. Also Powered Support Logwall technology, where the face workers work under skin-to-skin steel roof support, have been introduced in some mines.

(vii) Regular monitoring of mine environment by hand held gas-detectors and flame safety lamps, Besides computerised continuous mine environmental tele-monitoring system have been introduced in some mines.

(viii) Examining the danger of inundation from both surface and under-ground sources of water before every monsoon.

(ix) Promoting workers participation in safety management through various bodies from the mine level to area level, subsidiary company level and CIL level.

(x) Coal India Ltd. has made a thorough review of precautions against inundation in its mines and check correlation survey have been undertaken to establish the barriers between waterlogged workings wherever danger of inundation exists.

(xi) A comprehensive action-plan is under implementation to reduce accidents in opencast mines and at surface of mines.

(xii) Thrust on training & re-training of workmen including contractor's workers and supervisors.

Closure of Unviable Mines

2839. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Coal and Mines has approached the Cabinet for permission to close down unviable mines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Department of